

State of Alaska FY2011 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Health and Social Services Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship Component Budget Summary

Component: Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship

Contribution to Department's Mission

Facilitates permanent placements in adoptive homes or stable guardianships for the increasing number of children in state custody whose special needs make them hard-to-place. Adoption is viewed as the most permanent placement for a child and is therefore generally the preferable option.

Guardianships are considered for children who cannot be freed for adoption, but for whom a reasonably permanent home can be provided through guardianship. This is often the best choice for children who cannot live with their parents, but continue to have an important emotional tie with their families that should not be severed.

Core Services

- Facilitate permanency through recruitment of homes for children who need permanent homes; home studies on potential adoptive families; pre-adoption services for the child and family; and post-adoption services after the final adoption or guardianship court hearing.
- Provide for permanent homes to children that are in the custody of the state and who are unlikely to be adopted without a subsidy.

Key Component Challenges

When children leave foster care, their special needs are reassessed to determine whether they will continue to need assistance through the Subsidized Adoption & Guardianship program. Approximately 95 percent of children exiting custody through adoption or legal guardianship have special needs and continue to receive state benefits through the subsidy programs.

Children that have been removed from situations of maltreatment and that have physical, mental or emotional disturbances continue to struggle even after being removed. The OCS has recognized for some time that the level of disturbance and complexity of problems for children in custody is increasing. These factors make it difficult to find permanent adoptive or guardianship homes without a subsidy. It is preferable and more cost-effective for the state to provide a means for children to be given a permanent home with a state-funded subsidy than for the state to continue being completely responsible for the child. The adoption or guardianship subsidy covers the costs for the child's special needs and is available to the family until the child reaches age 18. The special needs of these children combined with budgetary constraints make this a challenging task at best.

The OCS needs to reduce the delays being experienced for completion of home studies that are required before a child can be adopted in order to promote timely adoptions within federally established timeframes. Significant increases in adoption homestudy referrals over the past three fiscal years have led to increases in adoption and guardianship subsidies.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2011

The Office of Children's Services anticipates continued increases in adoptions and guardianships through FY10 with those numbers leveling in FY11. If a reduction in the number of adoptions being processed is realized, more timely permanent solutions for children should be the result.

Updated Status for Results to be Delivered in FY2010

OCS made adjustments to subsidies needing review, and brought monthly rates in line with FY09 Foster Care Base Rate increases. This will continue until all eligible subsidies have been updated.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2009

The OCS experienced increased success in finding homes for children as children are simultaneously presented in the

Alaska Adoption Exchange as well as the Northwest adoptions exchange and AdoptUSkids. The OCS has demonstrated a steady increase in composite measures of 23% in performance timeliness of adoptions.

Permanent adoptive or guardianship homes and subsidies for children with special needs that are in custody of the state are provided through the Subsidized Adoptions and Guardianships component. These children would likely not be adopted without a subsidy because of their documented special needs. The program has been successful due to an increased emphasis on permanency planning and the commitment to move children from foster care to a permanent placement in as safe and as timely a manner as possible.

As of June, 2008, there were 2,395 continuing adoptions and guardianships, and 289 new adoptions and guardianships for Alaska. One year later there were 2,543 continuing adoptions and guardianships and 343 new adoptions and guardianships -- a increase of 6% and 19% respectively.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 25.23	Adoption
AS 25.23.190-240	Subsidy for hard-to-place child
AS 47.10.080	Judgments and orders
7 AAC 53 Article 2	Subsidized Adoption and Subsidized Guardianship Payments

Title IV-E of the Social Security Act	
42 USC 1305	Adoptions & Safe Families Act of 1997

Contact Information
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Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship Component Financial Summary

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
72000 Travel	10.6	0.0	0.0
73000 Services	418.4	1,026.3	1,026.3
74000 Commodities	5.7	0.0	0.0
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	21,399.7	22,375.3	22,375.3
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	21,834.4	23,401.6	23,401.6
Funding Sources:			
1002 Federal Receipts	9,707.1	11,952.0	11,952.0
1003 General Fund Match	3,134.4	2,354.4	2,354.4
1004 General Fund Receipts	8,117.4	8,315.2	8,315.2
1212 Federal Stimulus: ARRA 2009	875.5	780.0	780.0
Funding Totals	21,834.4	23,401.6	23,401.6

Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Conference Committee	FY2010 Authorized	FY2010 Authorized	FY2011 Governor
Unrestricted Revenues						
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unrestricted Total		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Restricted Revenues						
Federal Receipts	51010	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11,952.0
Federal Economic Stimulus	51118	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	780.0
Restricted Total		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12,732.0
Total Estimated Revenues		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12,732.0

**Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2010 Management Plan to FY2011 Governor***All dollars shown in thousands*

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2010 Management Plan	10,669.6	12,732.0	0.0	23,401.6
FY2011 Governor	10,669.6	12,732.0	0.0	23,401.6

Component Detail All Funds

Department of Health and Social Services

Component: Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)

RDU: Children's Services (486)

	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Conference Committee	FY2010 Authorized	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor	FY2010 Management Plan vs FY2011 Governor	
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
72000 Travel	10.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
73000 Services	418.4	1,026.3	1,026.3	1,026.3	1,026.3	0.0	0.0%
74000 Commodities	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
77000 Grants, Benefits	21,399.7	22,375.3	22,375.3	22,375.3	22,375.3	0.0	0.0%
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Totals	21,834.4	23,401.6	23,401.6	23,401.6	23,401.6	0.0	0.0%
Fund Sources:							
1002 Fed Rcpts	9,707.1	11,952.0	11,952.0	11,952.0	11,952.0	0.0	0.0%
1003 G/F Match	3,134.4	2,354.4	2,354.4	2,354.4	2,354.4	0.0	0.0%
1004 Gen Fund	8,117.4	8,315.2	8,315.2	8,315.2	8,315.2	0.0	0.0%
1212 Fed ARRA	875.5	780.0	780.0	780.0	780.0	0.0	0.0%
General Funds	11,251.8	10,669.6	10,669.6	10,669.6	10,669.6	0.0	0.0%
Federal Funds	10,582.6	12,732.0	12,732.0	12,732.0	12,732.0	0.0	0.0%
Other Funds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Positions:							
Permanent Full Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Permanent Part Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Non Permanent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%

Change Record Detail - Multiple Scenarios With Descriptions
Department of Health and Social Services

Component: Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)

RDU: Children's Services (486)

Scenario/Change Record Title	Trans Type	Totals	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Miscellaneous	Positions		NP
										PFT	PPT	
***** Changes From FY2010 Conference Committee To FY2010 Authorized *****												
FY2010 Conference Committee	ConfCom	23,401.6	0.0	0.0	1,026.3	0.0	0.0	22,375.3	0.0	0	0	0
1002 Fed Rcpts	11,952.0											
1003 G/F Match	2,354.4											
1004 Gen Fund	8,315.2											
1212 Fed ARRA	780.0											
	Subtotal	23,401.6	0.0	0.0	1,026.3	0.0	0.0	22,375.3	0.0	0	0	0
***** Changes From FY2010 Authorized To FY2010 Management Plan *****												
	Subtotal	23,401.6	0.0	0.0	1,026.3	0.0	0.0	22,375.3	0.0	0	0	0
***** Changes From FY2010 Management Plan To FY2011 Governor *****												
	Totals	23,401.6	0.0	0.0	1,026.3	0.0	0.0	22,375.3	0.0	0	0	0

Line Item Detail
Department of Health and Social Services
Travel

Component: Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)
RDU: Children's Services (486)

Line Number	Line Name	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
72000	Travel	10.6	0.0	0.0

Line Item Detail
Department of Health and Social Services
Services

Component: Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)
RDU: Children's Services (486)

Line Number	Line Name			FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
73000	Services			418.4	1,026.3	1,026.3
Expenditure Account	Servicing Agency	Explanation		FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
73000 Services Detail Totals				0.0	0.0	1,026.3
73450	Advertising & Promos	Recruitment postings, media campaigns and notices necessary to meet legal requirements.		0.0	0.0	10.0
73750	Other Services (Non IA Svcs)	Provide assistance to adoptive children and families to include pre-adoptive services and post-adoption services following the final adoption or guardianship hearing.		0.0	0.0	155.3
73753	Program Mgmt/Consult	Contract with outside vendor for permanent families services that focus on adoption recruitment and referral, home study services to families who want to adopt children in OCS custody and post-adoption services. \$482.6		0.0	0.0	510.6
73812	Legal	Contract with outside vendor for participation in the adoption exchange and promote earlier identification of children waiting for adoption and potential families waiting to adopt. \$28.0	Law	0.0	0.0	350.4
		RSA: Department of Law, Civil Division, Permanency Placement. Fund legal services to promote and identify permanent placements for those children who have been in state custody for extended periods. Includes case costs such as travel, outside contracts and transcription services.				

Line Item Detail
Department of Health and Social Services
Commodities

Component: Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)
RDU: Children's Services (486)

Line Number	Line Name	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
74000	Commodities	5.7	0.0	0.0

Line Item Detail
Department of Health and Social Services
Grants, Benefits

Component: Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)
RDU: Children's Services (486)

Line Number	Line Name		FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
77000	Grants, Benefits		21,399.7	22,375.3	22,375.3
Expenditure Account	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
77000 Grants, Benefits Detail Totals			0.0	0.0	22,375.3
77119	Foster Care/Adoption	Grant to outside vendor (Northwest Resources Associates) to recruit adoptive families that reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of the children served by OCS. Costs include training and support to resource families designed to improve the safety of children in care, streamline procedures and avoid delays.	0.0	0.0	825.0
77300	Foster/Adopt(Nontax)	Fund adoption and guardianship subsidies to facilitate permanent placements in adoptive homes or stable guardianships for children in State custody whose special needs make them hard-to-place. Federal guidelines for Title IV-E Federal adoptions define a "hard-to-place" child as a "minor who is not likely to be adopted or to obtain a guardian by reason of physical or mental disability, emotional disturbance, recognized high risk of physical or mental disease, age, membership in a sibling group, racial or ethnic factors, or any combination of these conditions".	0.0	0.0	21,550.3

Restricted Revenue Detail **Department of Health and Social Services**

Component: Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)
RDU: Children's Services (486)

Master Account	Revenue Description	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
51010	Federal Receipts	0.0	0.0	11,952.0

Detail Information

Revenue Amount	Revenue Description	Component	Collocation Code	AKSAS Fund	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
51010	Federal Receipts		06213800	11100	0.0	0.0	11,952.0
	Title IVE of the Social Security Act: \$7,852.0						
	Social Services Block Grant - \$3,782.0						

Restricted Revenue Detail **Department of Health and Social Services**

Component: Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)
RDU: Children's Services (486)

Master Account	Revenue Description	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
51118	Federal Economic Stimulus	0.0	0.0	780.0

Detail Information

Revenue Amount	Revenue Description	Component	Collocation Code	AKSAS Fund	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
51118	Federal Economic Stimulus		06213800	11100	0.0	0.0	780.0
Funds available due to the federal economic stimulus package, OMB Fund Code #1212.							

Inter-Agency Services
Department of Health and Social Services

Component: Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)
RDU: Children's Services (486)

Expenditure Account		Service Description	Service Type	Servicing Agency	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
73812	Legal	RSA: Department of Law, Civil Division, Permanency Placement. Fund legal services to promote and identify permanent placements for those children who have been in state custody for extended periods. Includes case costs such as travel, outside contracts and transcription services.	Inter-dept	Law	0.0	0.0	350.4
73812 Legal subtotal:					0.0	0.0	350.4
Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship total:					0.0	0.0	350.4
Grand Total:					0.0	0.0	350.4